

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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This observation was made during my fieldwork for the project Ecology of Shola grassland Project. I thank the US Fish & Wildlife Service for funding and Tamil Nadu Forest Department for permission.

## REFERENCE

GUNATHILAGARAJ K., T.N.A. PERUMAL, K. JAYARAM & M.G. KUMAR (1998): Some South Indian Butterflies. Nilgiri Wildlife and Environment Association Udhagamandalam. Mytec Process Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore, India.

## 20. FIRST RECORD OF *SCATELLA STAGNALIS* (FALLÉN) (EPHYDRIDAE: DIPTERA), FROM INDIA

*Scatella stagnalis* (Fallén) is a schizophoran, acalyptate dipteran belonging to the superfamily Drosophiloidea. The genus *Scatella* Robineau-Desvoidy, reportedly has 3 species from the Oriental region, namely *Scatella bullacosta* Cressor (Taiwan), *Scatella scantipuli* Schiner (St. Paul's Island) and *Scatella stagnalis* (Fallén), which is more widespread in distribution, being recorded from four zoogeographical areas, namely Oriental (Taiwan) Holarctic, Ethiopian and Neotropical regions. The diagnostic features of the species are: black body with pruinose face; dorsum of abdomen shining dark brown; wings usually with 2 or more spots in R<sub>2+3</sub>.

*Scatella stagnalis* was first reported by Fallén from its type locality, Sweden; the only report from the Oriental region is from Taiwan (former Formosa).

While studying the Ephydrid collection of the National Zoological Collection at the Headquarters of the Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata, we came across a female specimen of this species, collected by A.P. Kapoor on 21.xii.1956, from Eden Gardens, Kolkata, West Bengal (22° 34' N; 88° 27' E). This species was diagnosed by W. Wirth and was not published anywhere. Moreover, no reports of this species from any other state or region of India or from the Indian subcontinent were found.

During a recent survey in the Nepli Reserve Forest and Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary of Chandigarh (33° 44' N; 76° 52' E), one of us (P. Parui) collected 15 specimens of *Scatella stagnalis* (Fallén). The flies were collected from the barren bed of a water canal, which was then dry, but usually serves as a forest water outlet. The flies were found resting on the bare canal bed.

The present communication is of importance as it is the first record of this species from two different zones (north and east) of India.

***Scatella stagnalis* (Fallén)**

1813. *Ephydra stagnalis* Fallén, K. *Svenska vet. Akad. Handl.*, (3): 248, type-loc: Sweden

**Material examined:** 1 ♀, Eden Gardens, Kolkata, West Bengal, 21.xii.1956, coll. A.P. Kapoor; 15 exs; Nepli Reserve Forest, Chandigarh, 6.ii.2002, coll. P. Parui.

**Distribution:** INDIA: Chandigarh; West Bengal.

**Elsewhere:** Taiwan; Holarctic; Ethiopian; Neotropical.

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## 21. ADDITION TO THE MANTID FAUNA OF SANJAY GANDHI NATIONAL PARK, MUMBAI AND SOME NEW RECORDS FROM MAHARASHTRA

A note on mantid fauna of Sanjay Gandhi National Park (SGNP), Mumbai, with some new records for Maharashtra state was published by Chaturvedi and Hegde (2000). Recently, Ghate and Ranade (2002) reported 44 species of mantids from Maharashtra. During further observations

and studies on the mantid fauna of SGNP and other parts of Maharashtra, we found seven new records not reported by Ghate and Ranade (2002); these include specimens from the earlier collection of the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) by T.K. Mukherjee.

The following species are additions to the list of mantid fauna of SGNP and Maharashtra. Appendix 1 lists the mantid fauna of SGNP and Appendix 2 lists the mantid fauna recorded so far from Maharashtra.

**A. Family: Hymenopodidae** Chopard

**I. Subfamily: Acromantinae**

**Genus: *Euantissa*** Giglio-Tos

**1. *Euantissa pulchra*\***

Locality: Tulsi Lake, SGNP

Date: 30.vii.2000

Collected by: BNHS Party

Sex & Measurements: F, BL-18, PN-7, HW-18

Distribution: Eastern, northeastern and Southern India

**Genus: *Ephestiasula*** Giglio-Tos

**2. *Ephestiasula intermedia* Werner\***

Locality: Goregaon, SGNP

Date: 26.vi.1999

Collected by: BNHS Party

Sex & Measurements: M, BL-18, PN-4, FW-17

Distribution: Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Orissa

**II. Subfamily: Hymenopodinae** Giglio-Tos

**Genus: *Creobroter*** Audinet-Serville

**3a: *Creobroter laevicollis* (Saussure)\*\* (NR1)**

Locality: Sawantwadi, Maharashtra

Date: 18.x.2000

Collected by: BNHS Party

Sex & Measurements: F, BL-33, PN-9, FW-25

3b: Locality: Karnala, Maharashtra

Date: 15.vii.2002

Collected by: BNHS Party

Sex & Measurements: M, BL-23, PN-7, HW-25

Distribution: Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Sikkim, West Bengal

**B. Family: Mantidae** Burmeister

**I. Subfamily: Liturgusinae** Giglio-Tos

**Genus: *Humbertiella*** Saussure

**4a: *Humbertiella ceylonica* Saussure\***

Locality: SGNP

Date: 10.viii.1999

Collected by: BNHS Party

Sex & Measurements: M, BL-27, PN-7, FW-27

4b: Locality: Malshej Ghat, Maharashtra

Date: 7.viii.2000

Collected by: BNHS Party

Sex & Measurements: M, BL-27, PN-7, FW-27

Distribution: Assam, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal

**5. *Humbertiella indica*** Saussure

Locality: Nasik\*\*

Date: 11.v.1940

Collected by: N.B. Kinnear

Sex & Measurements: Abdomen broken

Distribution: Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh

**II. Subfamily: Amelinae** Giglio-Tos

**Genus: *Amantis*** Giglio-Tos

**6. *Amantis biroi*** Giglio-Tos (NR2)

Locality: Andheri, Mumbai\*\*

Date: 27.x.1934

Collected by: Charle's McCann

Sex & Measurements: M, BL-12, PN-3, FW-12

Distribution: Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and West Bengal

**7. *Amantis saussurei* (Bolivar)\*\* (NR3)**

Locality: Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary, Maharashtra

Date: 15.iv.2000

Collected by: BNHS Party

Sex & Measurements: M, BL-14, PN-3, FW-13

Distribution: Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Kerala and Tamil Nadu

**Genus: *Cimantis*** Giglio-Tos

**8. *Cimantis fuliginosa* Werner\* (NR4)**

Locality: SGNP, Mumbai

Date: 29.v.1999

Collected by: BNHS Party

Sex & Measurements: M, BL-12, PN-3, FW-11

Distribution: Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra

(A specimen collected on 9.x.1936 present in the BNHS Collection was identified to be of this species by one of the authors TKM)

**Genus: *Gonypeta*** Saussure

**9. *Gonypeta punctata* (De Haan) (NR5)**

Locality: Goregaon, SGNP, Mumbai\*

Date: 8.x.1999

Collected by: BNHS Party

Sex & Measurements: F, BL-18, PN-3, FW-35

Distribution: Karnataka, Meghalaya, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh

III. **Subfamily: Mantinae** Kirby

**Tribe: Miomantini** Beier

**Genus: *Deiphobe*** Stal

10. *Deiphobe mesomelas* (Olivier) Nymph

Locality: Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary\*\*

Date: 2.viii.2000

Collected by: BNHS Party

Sex: Female

Remarks: Mukherjee *et al.* (1995) had recorded it in Maharashtra, but specific locality in the state was not mentioned.

Distribution: Himachal Pradesh & Maharashtra

**Genus: *Hierodula*** Giglio-Tos

11. *Hierodula (Hierodula) saussurei* Kirby (NR6)

Locality: Mahabaleshwar, Maharashtra\*\*

Date: 3.vi.2001

Collected by: BNHS Party

Sex & Measurements: F, BL-70, PN-19, FW-50

Distribution: Arunachal Pradesh

12. *Hierodula (Hierodula) doveri* Chopard (NR7)

Locality: Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary\*\*

Date: 1.viii.2000

Collected by: BNHS Party

Sex & Measurements: M, BL-56, PN-21, FW-46

Distribution: Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa and Tamil Nadu

**Genus: *Mantis*** Linnaeus

13. *Mantis iuruata* Werner

Locality: Vitava, Thane

Date: 22.x.1999

Collected by: BNHS Party

Sex & Measurements: N, BL-31, PN-11

Distribution: Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra

IV. **Subfamily: Phyllothelinae** Beier

**Genus: *Phyllothelys*** Wood-Mason

14. *Phyllothelys westwoodi* (Wood-Masoni)

Locality: Andheri, Mumbai

Date: 9.viii.1936

Sex & Measurements: F, PN-5, FW-27

Remark: Old specimen, abdomen broken

Abbreviations used: NR: New record from Maharashtra;

M: Male; F: Female; N: Nymph; \*Species reported from SGNP;

\*\* Species reported from Maharashtra, besides SGNP; BL:

Body length; PN: Pronotum, FW: Fore wing, HW: Hind wing.

These seven additions bring the number of mantid fauna in Maharashtra to 51. The genus *Amantis* present in the collection was recently identified up to species.

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Appendix 1: Checklist of mantid fauna of Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Mumbai

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|---|--|
| <p><b>Family: Amorphoscelidae</b> Stal</p> <p>1. <i>Amorphoscelis annulicornis</i> Stal</p> <p><b>Family: Hymenopodidae</b> Chopard</p> <p>2. <i>Ambivia popa</i> Stal*</p> <p>3. <i>Ephestiasula pictipes</i> (Wood-Mason)*</p> <p>4. <i>Ephestiasula intermedia</i> Werner</p> <p>5. <i>Euantissa pulchra</i> (Fabricius)</p> <p>6. <i>Hestiasula brunneriana</i> Saussure</p> <p>7. <i>Creobroter gemmatus</i> (Stoll)</p> <p><b>Family: Mantidae</b> Burmeister</p> <p>8. <i>Dysaules himalayanus</i> Wood-Mason*</p> <p>9. <i>Humbertiella affinis</i> Giglio-Tos</p> <p>10. <i>Humbertiella ceylonica</i> Saussure</p> <p>11. <i>Humbertiella indica</i> Saussure</p> | <p>12. <i>Humbertiella nigrospinosa</i> Sjoestedt</p> <p>13. <i>Schizocephala bicornis</i> (Linnaeus)</p> <p>14. <i>Amantis biroi</i> Giglio-Tos*</p> <p>15. <i>Cimantis fuliginosa</i> Werner</p> <p>16. <i>Gonypeta punctata</i> (De Haan)</p> <p>17. <i>Deiphobe infuscata</i> (Saussure)</p> <p>18. <i>Hierodula (Hierodula) tenuidentata</i> Saussure</p> <p>19. <i>Hierodula (Hierodula) unimaculata</i> (Olivier)</p> <p>20. <i>Mantis inornata</i> Werner</p> <p>21. <i>Phyllothelys westwoodi</i> (Wood-Mason)*</p> <p><b>Family: Empusidae</b> Burmeister</p> <p>22. <i>Gongylus gongylodes</i> (Linnaeus)</p> |
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\* Old records

## Appendix 2: Checklist of mantid fauna of Maharashtra

- Family:** Amorphoscelidae Stal
1. *Amorphoscelis annulicornis* Stal
- Family:** Hymenopodidae Chopard
2. *Ambivia popa* Stal
  3. *Ephestiasula intermedia* Werner
  4. *Ephestiasula pictipes* (Wood-Mason)
  5. *Euantissa pulchra* (Fabricius)
  6. *Hestiasula brunneriana* Saussure
  7. *Creobroter apicalis* Saussure
  8. *Creobroter laevicollis* Saussure
  9. *Creobroter gemmatus* (Stoll)
- Family:** Mantidae Burmeister
10. *Didymocorypha lanceolata* (Fabricius)
  11. *Dysaules himalayanus* Wood-Mason
  12. *Humbertiella ceylonica* Saussure
  13. *Humbertiella affinis* Giglio-Tos
  14. *Humbertiella nigrospinosa* Sjostedt
  15. *Humbertiella indica* Saussure
  16. *Heterochaetula fissispinis* Wood-Mason
  17. *Heterochaetula tricolor* (Wood-Mason)
  18. *Schizocephala bicornis* (Linnaeus)
  19. *Hapalopeza nilgirica* Wood-Mason
  20. *Elmantis nira* Mukherjee & Hazra
  21. *Elmantis tricomaliae* (Saussure)
  22. *Eomantis guttatipennis* (Stal)
  23. *Amantis biroi* Giglio-Tos
  24. *Amantis saussurei* (Bolivar)
  25. *Cimantis fuliginosa* Werner
  26. *Gonypeta punctata* (De Haan)
  27. *Deiphobe incisa* Werner
  28. *Deiphobe infuscata* (Saussure)
  29. *Deiphobe mesomelas* (Olivier)
  30. *Deiphobella laticeps* (Wood-Mason)
  31. *Hierodula (Hierodula) saussurei* Kirby
  32. *Hierodula (Hierodula) tenuidentata* Saussure
  33. *Hierodula (Hierodula) unimaculata* (Olivier)
  34. *Hierodula (Hierodula) doveri* Chopard
  35. *Hierodula (Hierodula) ventralis* Giglio-Tos
  36. *Parhierodula (Parhierodula) coarctata* (Saussure)
  37. *Hierodula (Rhombodera) woodmasoni* Werner
  38. *Hierodula (Rhombodera) butleri* Wood-Mason
  39. *Mantis inornata* Werner
  40. *Mantis nobilis* Brunner
  41. *Mantis religiosa* Linnaeus
  42. *Statilia maculata* (Thunberg)
  43. *Phyllothelys westwoodi* (Wood-Mason)
  44. *Aethalochroa ashmoliana* (Westwood)
  45. *Aethalochroa insignis* Wood-Mason
  46. *Toxoderopsis taurus* Wood-Mason
  47. *Euthyphleps curtipes* (Westwood)
  48. *Paradanuria orientalis* Wood-Mason
- Family:** Empusidae Burmeister
49. *Empusa guttula* (Thunberg)
  50. *Empusa pauperata* (Fabricius)
  51. *Gongylus gongylodes* (Linnaeus)

## 22. NEW RECORD OF THE SALTICID SPIDER *THIANIA BHAMOENSIS* THORELL (ARANEAE: SALTICIDAE) FROM KERALA, INDIA WITH ITS REDESCRIPTION AND FIELD NOTES ON BEHAVIOUR

Although not very abundant *Thiania bhamoensis* originally described by Thorell (1895) from Burma (=Myanmar) is a common jumping spider found in many parts of Kerala state, India. We recently collected and studied a number of specimens of this spider from various parts of Kerala. Renowned salticid taxonomist Proszynski who prepared the diagrams of *T. bhamoensis* for the first time in 1984, based on the Thorell collection at Stockholm, confirmed our identification from the diagrams sent to him.

There is no previous record of this spider from India. However, Proszynski (2002) synonymized the spider *Marptusa oppressa* reported by Thorell in 1892 from Nicobar Island of India, to *T. bhamoensis*. A point we wish to highlight in this context is the close similarity between the recently collected specimens of *T. bhamoensis* and the type specimen of *Euophrys chiriatapuensis* collected by Tikader (1977) from the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, India and kept at the Zoological Survey of

India, Kolkata. The descriptions and diagrams published by Tikader (1977), Proszynski (2002) also point out these similarities. We therefore suggest that the species described by Tikader as *Euophrys chiriatapuensis* be synonymized to *Thiania bhamoensis* Thorell. We provide a redescription of the species along with field notes on its behaviour.

### *Thiania bhamoensis* Thorell

1892. *Marptusa oppressa*: Thorell, *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (6) IX: 226-237.

1895. *Thiania bhamoensis*: Thorell, *Descriptive Catalogue of the Spiders of Burma*, 1-406.

1901. *Thiania oppressa*: Simon, *Histoire Naturelle des Araignees*, 2(3): 381-668.

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1983. *Thiania bhamoensis*: Proszynski, *Folia*